

20 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Plans and Projects Branch,
Collection Staff, OSI

THROUGH: Chief, Intelligence Information Staff, OSI

THROUGH: Chief, Industrial Division, OSI

FROM: Chief, Electronic Equipment Branch, D/I, OSI

SUBJECT: US/USSR Exchange of Radio Amateurs

1. In connection with the subject exchange, the following statements of OSI/I/EE interest and considerations of net advantage are forwarded.
2. It is the opinion of this Branch that the subject exchange would present opportunities for collection of electronics information in the USSR. The greatest potential would lie in the area of Soviet electronic equipment and component production as related to the availability of equipment and components to Soviet amateurs, the quality of such material, the costs to the amateurs as individuals and as members of DSSAAF. We feel that the net advantage of this exchange would lie clearly on the side of the US.
3. Because of the considerable numbers of US amateurs of varying degrees of technical capability and various backgrounds, we feel that a careful selection of the US team should be made. We also feel that because the requirements for professional cover will be less stringent on this than on other exchanges, consideration should be given to the placement of a trained intelligence observer and analyst on the US team, and are prepared to submit the names of specific intelligence officers for this purpose.
4. We request that this Branch be notified of future consultations, briefings, and planning sessions for this exchange.

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OSI/D/I/EE: [REDACTED] eem/3697 (20 Oct 58)

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